

Notice of Funds Availability

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education FY 2010 Teacher Quality Improvement Grant Program

The District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education is soliciting applications for the development and provision of professional development programs aimed at enhancing student achievement in eligible Local Educational Agencies (LEAs). The purpose of these professional development programs will be to ensure that teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals, and, if appropriate, principals have subject matter knowledge in the core academic subjects they teach, and build upon the skills necessary to help students master core academic subjects. The Teacher Quality Improvement Grant Program is authorized under Part A, Subpart 3 of Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund.

Eligibility: The Teacher Quality Improvement Grant Program is a partnership grant. An eligible application must include the following principal partners at a minimum:

- (1) a private or State IHE and the division of the institution that prepares teachers and principals;
- (2) a school of arts and sciences; and
- (3) a high need LEA.

State Application Priority: In alignment with Goal B, Objective 3 of the OSSE Strategic Plan, which speaks to improving the quality of the District of Columbia's educators, the OSSE seeks applications outlining the design and implementation of a program that:

- 1) Includes one or more of the top five subject areas statewide with the highest number of non-highly qualified teachers: Art/Music; English/Reading/Language Arts; Secondary Mathematics; Secondary Sciences (General Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics); and/or Elementary Education.
- 2) Targets non-highly qualified teachers (majority of participants), and includes Praxis II Preparation as an objective.
- 3) Includes a majority of schools in NCLB School Improvement or Corrective Action status.

Award Period: The grant period will be from the date of award until September 30th, 2011.

Available Funding for Awards: The amount available for this award period is approximately \$627,000.

Anticipated Number and Amount of Awards: Historically, grant funding has been available for approximately 5-7 grants with amounts ranging in the \$50,000 to \$100,000 range.

The Request for Applications (RFA) will be released on Monday, November 23rd, 2009 and the deadline for submission is Friday, January 15th, 2010 at 5:00pm. The RFA will be available on OSSE's website, www.osse.dc.gov, and/or by contacting the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education at (202) 741-5218.

A Pre-Application Conference will be held on Wednesday, December 9th, 2009 from 1:00 pm to 3:00pm at 51 N Street, NE, Washington DC 20002, in the Lower Level Conference Room. You may reserve your seat by telephoning Orman Feres at (202) 741-5218 or e-mail him at orman.feres@dc.gov. **It is strongly recommended that applying organizations attend the pre-application conference.**

For additional information regarding this competition, please contact Orman Feres at (202) 741-5218